

Abstract

Enhancing Home Care Safety: Validation of a Context-Aware Incident Reporting Tool Integrated into the EHR

Laura Panigada¹, Chiara Colombo¹, Silvia Trazzi¹

¹ Medicasa Italia S.p.A., Italy

(Corresponding Author: laura.panigada@airliquide.com)

Citation: Panigada L, Colombo C, Trazzi S. “Enhancing Home Care Safety: Validation of a Context-Aware Incident Reporting Tool Integrated into the EHR” (2026) *International Journal of Health Supplements* 1(Suppl. 1):79. Supp. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.82051/ijhs-2026-1>

Introduction. Hospital incident reporting is inadequate for home care, which relies heavily on sociodemographics and caregiver (CG) involvement. This study shows the internal validation path of a new digital incident reporting module, designed to capture these contextual dimensions and integrate with the Electronic Health Records (EHR).

Methods. Module validation involved four steps: 1) Co-design: A multidisciplinary team developed the module, adding "CG Status," "Social Context," and "other Stakeholder" fields. 2) Pilot: A beta version was tested by 30 healthcare professionals (HP) for 12 months. 3) Survey: Usability was assessed via a survey (clarity, speed, relevance). 4) Validation: Feedback and usage were analyzed for final refinement and EHR integration.

Results. The survey response rate was 53%. The new module also showed high acceptance with a mean usability score of 4.2/5. Separating 'CG-related factors' and 'HP-related factors' was deemed highly useful (average score of 4.8), a utility confirmed by usage analysis. HP highly valued (mean score 4.7) the inclusion of 'CG-related factors.' Due to positive metrics, the board approved the tool for inclusion in EHR.

Discussion. Validating the tool was a change management process, not just technical. Early involvement of HP ensured the digital module met real-world needs. This participatory approach guarantees the new tool is seen as a valuable asset for safer home care, not an administrative burden.

Keywords: Incident Reporting, Home Care Safety, Digital Health, Usability, Sociodemographic Factors, Caregivers

© The Author(s) 2026. This abstract is published by iEditore and distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (CC BY 4.0).

Funding: This research received no external funding. **Conflict of Interest:** The authors declare no conflict of interest.